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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SIXTEEN CHARGED IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATION

DEA Busts Montgomery Cocaine Distribution Cell

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA — Sixteen members of a cocaine distribution ring were indicted by a federal grand jury, U.S. Attorney Leura G. Canary announced today. The individuals indicted are: Kenneth Jenkins, 48, Marcus Jenkins, 30, Fred Jenkins, 50, Michael Jenkins, 51, Michael Lee Boykins, 44, Draper Carter, 29, Derrick Lamond Butler, 34, Willie James Mumpfield, 66, Brandon A. Watkins, 23, Adrian Levon Murry, 33, Erica Gaston, 31, Frederico Lockhart, 23, James Lewis Mack, 37, James R. Russell, 26, Ardayrreyus Shelton, 36, all of Montgomery, Alabama, and Sam Marlon Alvarez, 38, of San Antonio, Texas. The defendants were arrested Wednesday and Thursday by Agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, specifically the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force. The suspects were named in a 52 count federal indictment charging conspiracy to distribute “powder” cocaine and “crack” cocaine, distribution of “crack” cocaine, and use of a communication facility to facilitate distribution of cocaine.

According to the indictment, from January 2008 until May 2008, the named defendants and others participated in a conspiracy to distribute 5 kilograms or more of powder and crack

Members of the public are reminded that the indictment contains only charges. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it will be the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

cocaine in the Montgomery, Alabama, area. In addition to conspiracy, the indictment also charges Marcus Jenkins, Fred Jenkins and Michael Jenkins with specific acts of possession with intent to distribute “crack” cocaine. Also, the indictment charges Marcus Jenkins and others with 53 counts of using a communication facility to facilitate the drug conspiracy.

U.S. Attorney Leura Canary stated, “Our office is firmly committed to prosecuting drug trafficking offenses. We are grateful to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies who worked together to bring us this case for prosecution.”

Michael Bulgrin, Resident Agent in Charge of DEA stated, “The successful conclusion of this investigation is a prime example of the value of continued cooperation between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. The dismantling of this violent drug trafficking organization will have an immediate, significant impact on the availability of illicit narcotics in the Montgomery area. While each participating law enforcement agency offers a unique investigative perspective to the drug problem in the Montgomery area, the combination of the law enforcement entities who participated in this investigation resulted in an insurmountable force for the drug traffickers.”

For the conspiracy charge alone, all the defendants face a potential sentence of at least 10 years imprisonment, up to a \$4 million fine, and 5 years of supervised release. Other charges carry sentences ranging from 4 years imprisonment to life.

This case was investigated by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration - Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force.

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Numerous law enforcement agencies participated in this Drug Enforcement Administration lead Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation, including the Alabama Bureau of Investigation, Millbrook Police Department, Alabama Attorney General's Office, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Montgomery Police Department, Alabama National Guard, and the United States Marshal's Service. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Verne H. Speirs.

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